

The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 14 OF 2016

WHEREAS, each year more than 600,000 men and women are released from prisons in the United States and more than 11 million people cycle through our nation's jails, with national recidivism rates topping 50 percent; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, a total of 973 county residents were released back into our community from the Centre County Correctional Facility, with the vast majority of these people having committed non-violent offenses. These "returning citizens" could be neighbors, friends, relatives, or business associates; and

WHEREAS, the Centre County Reentry Coalition was created in 2014 to help returning citizens make a successful transition back to the community. The coalition functions as a committee of the Centre County Criminal Justice Advisory Board and is comprised of representatives from over forty different organizations; and

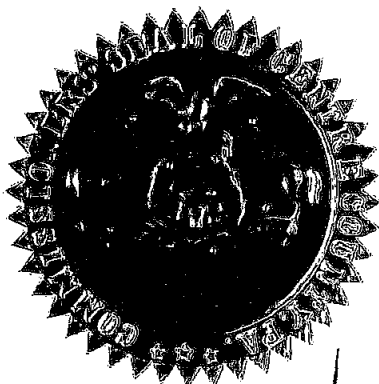
WHEREAS, the mission of the *Centre County Reentry Coalition* is to facilitate and support the successful return of incarcerated individuals to the community; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with government entities, faith and community-based organizations, and other stakeholders, the Coalition will utilize a holistic approach that includes an emphasis on education, families, health services, treatment, employment, mentorship and housing; and

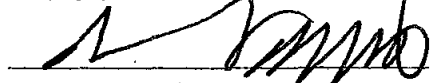
WHEREAS, since its creation in 2014 the Reentry Coalition has been instrumental in developing and/or facilitating a variety of programs, services, and community linkages to help individuals make a successful return to our community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim April 24-30, 2016 as "**National Reentry Week**" in Centre County and encourages all county residents to support efforts being made to assist former offenders in making a successful return to our communities.

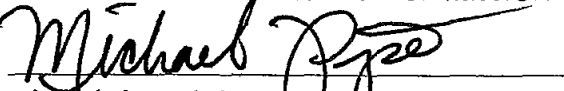
ADOPTED this 19th day of April, 2016

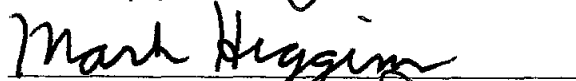



ATTEST:


Denise L. Elbell, Acting Administrator

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Michael Pipe, Chairman


Mark Higgins


Steven G. Dershem